

Good morning, this is Steve Lindenberg with the National Weather Service in Springfield, MO, with an updated hazardous weather briefing concerning our severe weather and heavy rain potential over the next few days. This briefing is current as of 10 AM this morning.



This very active stretch of weather will continue today, as additional storms will be possible this afternoon and tonight over the area. While predictability is quite low in this type of weather regime, it does appear that daily thunderstorm chances will be possible through mid week. Severe weather, while conditional on ingredients coming together at just the right time, will be possible each day as well. Where severe storms do occur, large hail and high winds are the most likely threats.

Flooding also remains a concern, even with the latest break from the rain. There are some indications that heavy rain will become increasingly likely Monday and especially into Tuesday, IF a few organized rounds of thunderstorms are able to track into the region.

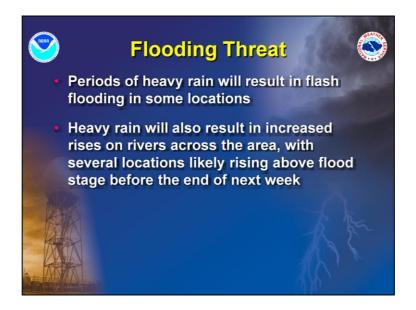


Here is Day 1 Convective Outlook from the Storm Prediction Center, showing a very expansive Slight Risk area stretching from the Great Lakes to south-central Texas, and including all of eastern Kansas and southwestern Missouri. Within the slight risk is a band of moderate risk of severe storms which stretches from near Tulsa to Springfield into Wisconsin.

During the day today, instability is expected to increase as a very moist low level air mass moves north, underneath relatively cold air aloft. Despite a lack of a well organized mid level wave or front moving through the area, thunderstorms are expected to develop by this afternoon over the region. Instability is expected to be quite strong, and mid level winds should be strong enough for storms to rapidly organize into severe clusters and/or supercells. Large hail, greater than the size of golf balls at times, along with strong straight line winds will be the greatest threat. Tornadoes don't appear overly likely, but can not be ruled out. The tornado threat may increase slightly this evening as winds a few thousand feet off the ground increase in strength.



There is a chance of storms again Monday through Wednesday. Severe weather chances will be conditional on the amount of instability that is able to develop between waves of rain and thunderstorms, but isolated strong storms can not be ruled out on any day. In addition to the severe weather chances, a tropical airmass will remain in place through the middle of next week, resulting in periods of heavy rain at times.



Since storms did not materialize on Saturday, the region has had a short chance to dry out a bit. With more thunderstorms expected starting this afternoon and evening, however, the break from the flooding threat will be short lived. Any flash flooding through Monday morning is expected to be quite localized in nature, and closely tied to any location that experiences multiple thunderstorms in a short period of time.

As we head into Monday and especially Tuesday, some model guidance suggests that we could experience more widespread periods of heavy rainfall, which if that does indeed occur, would heighten our flash flood threat once again. At this juncture, confidence remains low in this solution, but it is certainly something to keep an eye on during the next day or two.

Heavy rain will also result in rises along area rivers through next week. Most river basins are already beginning to see increased response from the rain that has fallen thus far, and additional rises are expected. Certainly anyone with interests along area rivers should remain aware of the latest river stage forecasts.



This will conclude the hazardous weather briefing from the NWS. Forecasts will change and adjust with time, so please check back with us at www.crh.noaa.gov/sgf.

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